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PetFest planned for Sunday

BY MARK HANSEL • MHANSEL@NKY.COM • JUNE 22, 2010

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BURLINGTON - The eighth annual PetFest takes place Sunday at Boone Woods in Burlington.



The event is sponsored by Friends of the Shelter/SPCA Kentucky.

Carolyn Lalley of Friends of the Shelter said the group got the inspiration for the PetFest from a similar event that takes place in West Chester.

"The first year we had it in May and we got rained out," Lalley said. "After that we moved it into June and it has been a great success every year."

Proceeds from the event are used to assist with spay/neuter programs in Northern Kentucky and to provide equipment for the

region's three animal shelters.

"We ask each shelter what item they need that is not in their budget and we are usually able to get it for them," Lalley said.

The festival, which takes place from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. features information and product booths, demonstrations, food, pet contests, a pet psychic and a silent auction.

Items up for bid at the auction include four seats in the Champions Club for a Reds game at Great American Ball Park and a football autographed by Bengals' head coach Marvin Lewis.

There will also be a dog walk between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. and there will be a prize for the most money collected from sponsors.

Pet contests have an entry fee of \$5 per pet and prizes will be awarded for pet and owner look alike, best trick and best costume.

PetFest will also be the first chance for area residents to get a look at the Boone County Animal Shelter's mobile adoption unit.

The ribbon cutting for the new vehicle, which has been dubbed the "Adoption Waggin'," takes place at 2 p.m. The van will also be open for inspection after the ribbon cutting.

"We are looking forward to displaying the mobile adoption van to the public," Becky Reiter, director of the Boone County Animal Shelter, said.

Friends of the Shelter is a local humane group formed in 1990. Members of the group volunteer at Northern Kentucky animal shelters and focus on the humane treatment of animals and spay and neutering efforts that help prevent overcrowding at the facilities.

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Boone Woods is located on Veterans Way off of Ky. 18 in Burlington and admission and parking for the event are free.

For more information about Friends of the Shelter or PetFest, visit www.friendsoftheshelterky.org.

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